

From: Ken Baker
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:28am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am strongly against the proposed settlement between the DoJ and Microsoft.

I am an IT professional who has, over the past several years, watched as Microsoft has bullied, coerced, and generally forced their products on the public. They have also bullied, coerced, and generally forced their products on the various OEM computer manufacturers.

I have watched as Microsoft, using the huge financial resources available to them, bundled and given away their products as a method of effectively removing competition from the marketplace.

I have watched as Microsoft has gobbled up competing companies, thereby destroying that company's product(s).

I have watched as Microsoft has taken Public Domain standards and modified the technology of those standards, effectively making them proprietary. This can, and has, damaged interoperability between Microsoft systems and systems from competing vendors.

I have cleaned up damage done to Microsoft products because the products are not, by design, secure. This has cost my customers large sums in my labor charges, as well as the cost of downtime during the cleanup.

Finally, and in yet another example of monopolistic behavior, Microsoft appears to be trying to slowly take control of the Internet (a public resource) and the public's dollars through its .NET initiative and Microsoft Passport.

I strongly urge the court to reject the proposed settlement and take the necessary steps to break the stranglehold that Microsoft has on this industry.

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